

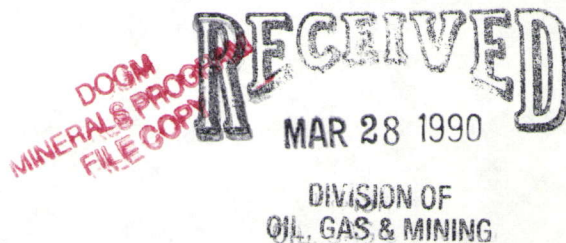
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State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

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CERTIFIED MAIL
(Return Receipt Requested)

March 20, 1990

Glen M. Eurick
Environmental Affairs Coordinator
Barrick Mercur Gold Mine
P.O. Box 838
Tooele, UT 84074

RE: Written Notice to Apply for a Ground Water
Discharge Permit: Tailings Pond.

Dear Mr. Eurick:

We are in receipt of your ground water discharge notification form dated February 9, 1990 for your facility. Based on information in our files we have determined:

1. The wastewater/process water impounded in the tailings pond exceeds the Ground Water Quality Standards (GWQS), defined in UAC R448-6-2 and therefore has a potential to cause an adverse impact on ground water quality. Some values from the tailings water have been reported as high as 74 times greater than the GWQS (arsenic).
2. Ground water monitoring wells in the vicinity of the tailings pond have reported low total dissolved solids content of the ground water; less than 1000 mg/l. TDS values from the tailings water have been reported as high as 8,700 mg/l. The tailings pond has a potential to adversely impact the TDS classification of the underlying ground water.
3. The tailings pond meets the criteria of UAC R448-6-6.1B in that the tailings pond "... discharges or would probably result in a discharge of pollutants that may move directly or indirectly into ground water ..."

Therefore, based on these determinations, this letter constitutes a formal request that Barrick Mercur Gold Mine apply for a ground water discharge permit for the existing tailings pond.

Pursuant to UAC R448-6-6.1B, this application must be submitted to the Executive Secretary within one-year of receipt of this letter. The application form is currently in preparation and will be forwarded to you shortly.

We have also reviewed several documents submitted on October 7, 1989 including: plans for the investigation of the saddle dam seepage, plans for ground water monitoring quality assurance/quality control during the investigatory phase, plans for ground water sampling and quality assurance for the on-going investigations at Dumps 2 and 3, plans for long-term ground water monitoring at the tailings pond, and monitoring well construction specifications for both the tailings pond and Dump 2. Our comments, attached, are provided to help you prepare for your upcoming ground water discharge permit application for the tailings pond.

If you have any questions or comments, please call Loren Morton at 538-6146.

Sincerely,

Utah Water Pollution Control Committee



Don A. Ostler, P.E.
Executive Secretary

Attachments

cc: Frank D. Wicks, Barrick
Ralph Sacrison, Barrick
Terry Vandell, Dames & Moore
Matt Trujillo, Tooele Co. Health Dept.
Wayne Hedberg, DOGM
Glade Shelley, Utah Co. Health Dept.
Fred Nelson, Attorney Generals Office

LBM:kc
Q:Saddleda.LTR